

****ATTENTION****

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FACTS:

Mosquito Control Agreement

Between Grant Co. Mosquito Control Board
and the Washington Department of Wildlife



Parties to the Agreement:

- Washington Department of Wildlife
- Grant County Mosquito Control District, a local improvement district serving all of Grant County

The Problem:

- Mosquitos breed on 76,000 acres of Washington Department of Wildlife land and 58,000 acres of waterway in Grant County. Department land includes Potholes, Desert and Gloyd Seeps wildlife areas. Grant County waterways are the most heavily fished in Washington.
- While mosquitos can transmit disease in livestock and are a nuisance to people, they also are a food source for fish and wildlife.
- Traditional chemical pesticides used for mosquito control can be harmful to fish and wildlife, and at the same time decrease the economic benefits of outdoor recreation.

The Solution:

- The agreement establishes a planning and review process that will assure department and district cooperation in attaining common goals and protecting the public interest.
- The agreement stipulates that biological pesticides approved under the SEPA process will be used on all Department lands. It also stipulates preference of "integrated pest management" methods over chemical control methods. "Integrated pest management" methods include the introduction of mosquito predators and mechanical methods of bank and shoreline contouring.
- The agreement sets conditions under which exceptions may be necessary and acceptable.

Cost:

Although costs are unspecified, both parties agree that they will probably exceed the resources of either agency and that the district and the department will cooperatively seek additional funding to implement the program.

Time Period and Evaluation:

The agreement covers a 12-month period and will be reviewed at the end of the period to evaluate the need and benefits of a longer-term agreement.